

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
13 May 2004 (13.05.2004)

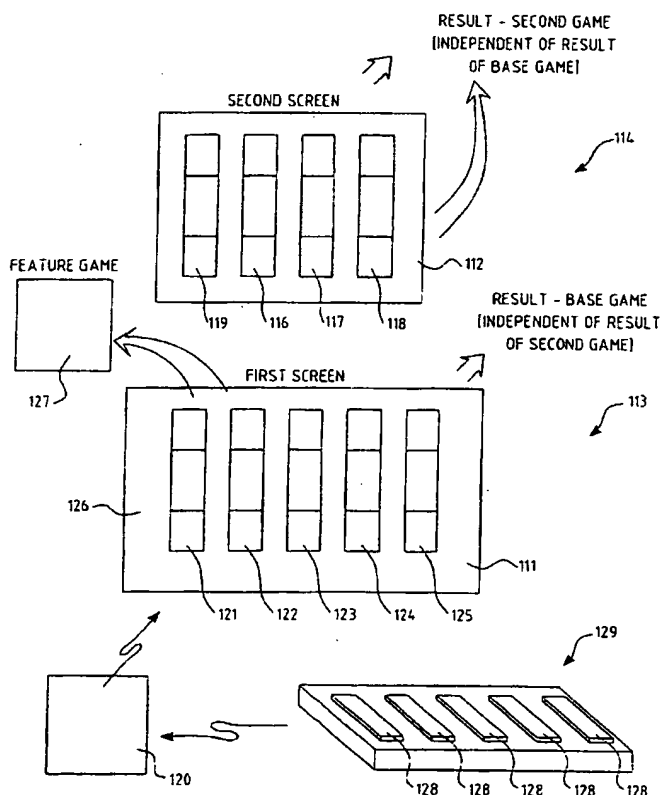
PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/039466 A1**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: A63F 13/00, G07F 17/34
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/AU2003/001432
- (22) International Filing Date: 31 October 2003 (31.10.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 2002952395 31 October 2002 (31.10.2002) AU
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): KONAMI AUSTRALIA PTY LTD [AU/AU]; PO BOX 322, Botany, NSW 2019 (AU).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): ETTRIDGE, Peter [AU/AU]; 28 Winchester Road, Clovelly, NSW 2031 (AU).
- (74) Agent: DUMMER, Peter, C.; Wallington-Dummer, GPO Box 3888, Sydney, NSW 2001 (AU).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: GAMING MACHINE WITH SECOND DISPLAY



(57) Abstract: A gaming machine operable to play a base game (113) and a second game (114); the gaming machine including a first display (111) adapted to display progress and results of the base game; the gaming machine further including a second display (112) adapted to display progress and results of the second game; the base game and the second game arranged to be played such that selected ones of outcomes of the second game affect play of the base game, whilst the outcome of the second game is independent of the outcome of the base game.

WO 2004/039466 A1

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

WO 2004/039466 A1

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 1042 1043 1044 1045 1046 1047 1048 1049 1050 1051 1052 1053 1054 1055 1056 1057 1058 1059 1060 1061 1062 1063 1064 1065 1066 1067 1068 1069 1070 1071 1072 1073 1074 1075 1076 1077 1078 1079 1080 1081 1082 1083 1084 1085 1086 1087 1088 1089 1090 1091 1092 1093 1094 1095 1096 1097 1098 1099 1100 1101 1102 1103 1104 1105 1106 1107 1108 1109 1110 1111 1112 1113 1114 1115 1116 1117 1118 1119 1120 1121 1122 1123 1124 1125 1126 1127 1128 1129 1130 1131 1132 1133 1134 1135 1136 1137 1138 1139 1140 1141 1142 1143 1144 1145 1146 1147 1148 1149 1150 1151 1152 1153 1154 1155 1156 1157 1158 1159 1160 1161 1162 1163 1164 1165 1166 1167 1168 1169 1170 1171 1172 1173 1174 1175 1176 1177 1178 1179 1180 1181 1182 1183 1184 1185 1186 1187 1188 1189 1190 1191 1192 1193 1194 1195 1196 1197 1198 1199 1200 1201 1202 1203 1204 1205 1206 1207 1208 1209 1210 1211 1212 1213 1214 1215 1216 1217 1218 1219 1220 1221 1222 1223 1224 1225 1226 1227 1228 1229 1230 1231 1232 1233 1234 1235 1236 1237 1238 1239 1240 1241 1242 1243 1244 1245 1246 1247 1248 1249 1250 1251 1252 1253 1254 1255 1256 1257 1258 1259 1260 1261 1262 1263 1264 1265 1266 1267 1268 1269 1270 1271 1272 1273 1274 1275 1276 1277 1278 1279 1280 1281 1282 1283 1284 1285 1286 1287 1288 1289 1290 1291 1292 1293 1294 1295 1296 1297 1298 1299 1300 1301 1302 1303 1304 1305 1306 1307 1308 1309 1310 1311 1312 1313 1314 1315 1316 1317 1318 1319 1320 1321 1322 1323 1324 1325 1326 1327 1328 1329 1330 1331 1332 1333 1334 1335 1336 1337 1338 1339 1340 1341 1342 1343 1344 1345 1346 1347 1348 1349 1350 1351 1352 1353 1354 1355 1356 1357 1358 1359 1360 1361 1362 1363 1364 1365 1366 1367 1368 1369 1370 1371 1372 1373 1374 1375 1376 1377 1378 1379 1380 1381 1382 1383 1384 1385 1386 1387 1388 1389 1390 1391 1392 1393 1394 1395 1396 1397 1398 1399 1400 1401 1402 1403 1404 1405 1406 1407 1408 1409 1410 1411 1412 1413 1414 1415 1416 1417 1418 1419 1420 1421 1422 1423 1424 1425 1426 1427 1428 1429 1430 1431 1432 1433 1434 1435 1436 1437 1438 1439 1440 1441 1442 1443 1444 1445 1446 1447 1448 1449 1450 1451 1452 1453 1454 1455 1456 1457 1458 1459 1460 1461 1462 1463 1464 1465 1466 1467 1468 1469 1470 1471 1472 1473 1474 1475 1476 1477 1478 1479 1480 1481 1482 1483 1484 1485 1486 1487 1488 1489 1490 1491 1492 1493 1494 1495 1496 1497 1498 1499 1500 1501 1502 1503 1504 1505 1506 1507 1508 1509 1510 1511 1512 1513 1514 1515 1516 1517 1518 1519 1520 1521 1522 1523 1524 1525 1526 1527 1528 1529 1530 1531 1532 1533 1534 1535 1536 1537 1538 1539 1540 1541 1542 1543 1544 1545 1546 1547 1548 1549 1550 1551 1552 1553 1554 1555 1556 1557 1558 1559 1560 1561 1562 1563 1564 1565 1566 1567 1568 1569 1570 1571 1572 1573 1574 1575 1576 1577 1578 1579 1580 1581 1582 1583 1584 1585 1586 1587 1588 1589 1590 1591 1592 1593 1594 1595 1596 1597 1598 1599 1600 1601 1602 1603 1604 1605 1606 1607 1608 1609 1610 1611 1612 1613 1614 1615 1616 1617 1618 1619 1620 1621 1622 1623 1624 1625 1626 1627 1628 1629 1630 1631 1632 1633 1634 1635 1636 1637 1638 1639 1640 1641 1642 1643 1644 1645 1646 1647 1648 1649 1650 1651 1652 1653 1654 1655 1656 1657 1658 1659 1660 1661 1662 1663 1664 1665 1666 1667 1668 1669 1670 1671 1672 1673 1674 1675 1676 1677 1678 1679 1680 1681 1682 1683 1684 1685 1686 1687 1688 1689 1690 1691 1692 1693 1694 1695 1696 1697 1698 1699 1700 1701 1702 1703 1704 1705 1706 1707 1708 1709 1710 1711 1712 1713 1714 1715 1716 1717 1718 1719 1720 1721 1722 1723 1724 1725 1726 1727 1728 1729 1730 1731 1732 1733 1734 1735 1736 1737 1738 1739 1740 1741 1742 1743 1744 1745 1746 1747 1748 1749 1750 1751 1752 1753 1754 1755 1756 1757 1758 1759 1760 1761 1762 1763 1764 1765 1766 1767 1768 1769 1770 1771 1772 1773 1774 1775 1776 1777 1778 1779 1780 1781 1782 1783 1784 1785 1786 1787 1788 1789 1790 1791 1792 1793 1794 1795 1796 1797 1798 1799 1800 1801 1802 1803 1804 1805 1806 1807 1808 1809 1810 1811 1812 1813 1814 1815 1816 1817 1818 1819 1820 1821 1822 1823 1824 1825 1826 1827 1828 1829 1830 1831 1832 1833 1834 1835 1836 1837 1838 1839 1840 1841 1842 1843 1844 1845 1846 1847 1848 1849 1850 1851 1852 1853 1854 1855 1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865 1866 1867 1868 1869 1870 1871 1872 1873 1874 1875 1876 1877 1878 1879 1880 1881 1882 1883 1884 1885 1886 1887 1888 1889 1890 1891 1892 1893 1894 1895 1896 1897 1898 1899 1900 1901 1902 1903 1904 1905 1906 1907 1908 1909 1910 1911 1912 1913 1914 1915 1916 1917 1918 1919 1920 1921 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033 2034 2035 2036 2037 2038 2039 2040 2041 2042 2043 2044 2045 2046 2047 2048 2049 2050 2051 2052 2053 2054 2055 2056 2057 2058 2059 2060 2061 2062 2063 2064 2065 2066 2067 2068 2069 2070 2071 2072 2073 2074 2075 2076 2077 2078 2079 2080 2081 2082 2083 2084 2085 2086 2087 2088 2089 2090 2091 2092 2093 2094 2095 2096 2097 2098 2099 2100 2101 2102 2103 2104 2105 2106 2107 2108 2109 2110 2111 2112 2113 2114 2115 2116 2117 2118 2119 2120 2121 2122 2123 2124 2125 2126 2127 2128 2129 2130 2131 2132 2133 2134 2135 2136 2137 2138 2139 2140 2141 2142 2143 2144 2145 2146 2147 2148 2149 2150 2151 2152 2153 2154 2155 2156 2157 2158 2159 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 2165 2166 2167 2168 2169 2170 2171 2172 2173 2174 2175 2176 2177 2178 2179 2180 2181 2182 2183 2184 2185 2186 2187 2188 2189 2190 2191 2192 2193 2194 2195 2196 2197 2198 2199 2200 2201 2202 2203 2204 2205 2206 2207 2208 2209 2210 2211 2212 2213 2214 2215 2216 2217 2218 2219 2220 2221 2222 2223 2224 2225 2226 2227 2228 2229 2230 2231 2232 2233 2234 2235 2236 2237 2238 2239 2240 2241 2242 2243 2244 2245 2246 2247 2248 2249 2250 2251 2252 2253 2254 2255 2256 2257 2258 2259 2260 2261 2262 2263 2264 2265 2266 2267 2268 2269 2270 2271 2272 2273 2274 2275 2276 2277 2278 2279 2280 2281 2282 2283 2284 2285 2286 2287 2288 2289 2290 2291 2292 2293 2294 2295 2296 2297 2298 2299 2300 2301 2302 2303 2304 2305 2306 2307 2308 2309 2310 2311 2312 2313 2314 2315 2316 2317 2318 2319 2320 2321 2322 2323 2324 2325 2326 2327 2328 2329 2330 2331 2332 2333 2334 2335 2336 2337 2338 2339 2340 2341 2342 2343 2344 2345 2346 2347 2348 2349 2350 2351 2352 2353 2354 2355 2356 2357 2358 2359 2360 2361 2362 2363 2364 2365 2366 2367 2368 2369 2370 2371 2372 2373 2374 2375 2376 2377 2378 2379 2380 2381 2382 2383 2384 2385 2386 2387 2388 2389 2390 2391 2392 2393 2394 2395 2396 2397 2398 2399 2400 2401 2402 2403 2404 2405 2406 2407 2408 2409 2410 2411 2412 2413 2414 2415 2416 2417 2418 2419 2420 2421 2422 2423 2424 2425 2426 2427 2428 2429 2430 2431 2432 2433 2434 2435 2436 2437 2438 2439 2440 2441 2442 2443 2444 2445 2446 2447 2448 2449 2450 2451 2452 2453 2454 2455 2456 2457 2458 2459 2460 2461 2462 2463 2464 2465 2466 2467 2468 2469 2470 2471 2472 2473 2474 2475 2476 2477 2478 2479 2480 2481 2482 2483 2484 2485 2486 2487 2488 2489 2490 2491 2492 2493 2494 2495 2496 2497 2498 2499 2500 2501 2502 2503 2504 2505 2506 2507 2508 2509 2510 2511 2512 2513 2514 2515 2516 2517 2518 2519 2520 2521 2522 2523 2524 2525 2526 2527 2528 2529 2530 2531 2532 2533 2534 2535 2536 2537 2538 2539 2540 2541 2542 2543 2544 2545 2546 2547 2548 2549 2550 2551 2552 2553 2554 2555 2556 2557 2558 2559 2560 2561 2562 2563 2564 2565 2566 2567 2568 2569 2570 2571 2572 2573 2574 2575 2576 2577 2578 2579 2580 2581 2582 2583 2584 2585 2586 2587 2588 2589 2590 2591 2592 2593 2594 2595 2596 2597 2598 2599 2600 2601 2602 2603 2604 2605 2606 2607 2608 2609 2610 2611 2612 2613 2614 2615 2616 2617 2618 2619 2620 2621 2622 2623 2624 2625 2626 2627 2628 2629 2630 2631 2632 2633 2634 2635 2636 2637 2638 2639 2640 2641 2642 2643 2644 2645 2646 2647 2648 2649 2650 2651 2652 2653 2654 2655 2656 2657 2658 2659 2660 2661 2662 2663 2664 2665 2666 2667 2668 2669 2670 2671 2672 2673 2674 2675 2676 2677 2678 2679 2680 2681 2682 2683 26

**GAMING MACHINE WITH SECOND DISPLAY**

The present invention relates to a gaming machine of the "poker machine" type and having more than one display.

**BACKGROUND**

Electronic gaming machines, sometimes and particularly in earlier times termed slot machines or poker machines, have been implemented via electro-mechanical reel arrangements. In more recent times the electro-mechanical reels have been replaced with video monitors of various kinds which simulate visually the reels of the electro-mechanical reel machines.

The use of video monitors and the like has improved the graphical appeal of games played on the gaming machines to the point where it can be difficult to differentiate games, one from the other.

It is an object of embodiments of the present invention to address or ameliorate at least one of the above mentioned disadvantages.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION**

Accordingly, in one broad form of the invention, there is provided a gaming machine operable to play a base game and a second game; said gaming machine including a first display adapted to display progress and

results of said base game; said gaming machine further including a second display adapted to display progress and results of said second game; said base game and said second game arranged to be played such that selected ones  
5 of outcomes of said second game affect play of said base game, whilst the outcome of said second game is independent of the outcome of said base game.

Preferably said base game and said second game are initiated substantially simultaneously.

10 Preferably a win conferred by said second game can award one or more of the following directly to said base game:

- i. A nil result;
- ii. A cash jackpot award;
- 15 iii. An award of a re-spin;
- iv. An award of credits for use in subsequent games;
- v. A feature game on the base game;
- vi. Free games or bonus game on said base game;
- 20 vii. An award of base game symbols in conjunction with a re-spin of the base game.

Preferably a win conferred by said second game can award a feature game to be played in said second display the outcome of which can award one or more of the  
25 following to said base game:

- i. A nil result;

- ii. A cash jackpot award;
- iii. An award of a re-spin;
- iv. An award of credits for use in subsequent games;

- 5 v. A feature game on the second game;
- vi. Free games or bonus game on said base game;
- vii. An award of base game symbols in conjunction with a re-spin of the base game.

Preferably said base game is a symbol-driven game.

- 10 Preferably said second game is a symbol-driven game.

Preferably the coming to rest of symbols of said first game is sequentially controlled.

Preferably the coming to rest of symbols of said second game is sequentially controlled.

- 15 Preferably sequencing of progress of said second game is interleaved with sequencing of progress of said first game.

Preferably said second game is paused when a winning combination of the second game is approached.

- 20 Preferably said second game remains paused until said base game terminates.

Preferably said play of said base game comprises a play of an initial game together with a play of any awarded feature games or bonus games or the like.

- 25 Preferably said base game includes an array of either 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 reels.

Preferably said second game includes a three reel array together with a fourth reel adapted to display an openable aperture.

5 Preferably each reel of the reels of said three reel array is divided into a number of sectors displayed on the circumferences of each said reel and wherein each said reel is provided with a symbol in at least one of said sectors.

10 Preferably a winning combination for said second game occurs when three symbols are aligned on a centre line of said three reel array and any symbol is displayed in said openable aperture of said fourth reel.

15 Preferably a win is determined according to a predetermined disposition of said symbols of said three reel array when said three reel array has reached a stationary state at the end of said second game.

20 Preferably the five reels of said base game and the reels of said second game are induced to spin at the start of said base game, and said openable aperture of said second game opens to reveal a symbol.

25 Accordingly, in a further broad form of the invention, there is provided a gaming machine of any previous claim wherein a feature game is awarded thereon and has its progress and outcome displayed on said first display; said feature game having an increased probability of award as a result of initiation of a play

of both said base game and said second game substantially simultaneously as compared with initiation of said base game only.

Accordingly, in yet a further broad form of the invention, there is provided a method of increasing probability of an award of a feature game, said method comprising:

- a) Providing a base game and a second game on an Electronic Gaming Machine together with a first display for displaying progress and results of said base game and a second display for displaying progress and results of said second game;
- b) Causing a play of said second game to be triggered when a play of said base game is initiated.
- c) Allowing selected ones of outcomes of said second game to affect play of said base game whilst the outcome of said second game is maintained independent of the outcome of said base game.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Embodiments of the present invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a gaming machine with a simultaneous play feature according to a first preferred embodiment of the invention,

Figure 2 is a view of the elements of a second game display usable in conjunction with the gaming machine of Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a flow chart of the interaction of a base game with a second game in accordance with a particular embodiment of the present invention usable in conjunction with the machine of Figure 1, and

Figure 4 is a view of the elements of a base game and second game in accordance with a first example of an embodiment of the present invention.

#### 15 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

In this specification the term "outcome" is used interchangeably with the word "result" to denote the end result or final outcome of a particular game play, whether a base game or a second game. For example, if the game rules denote the win of a feature game or an award of credits if three King symbols together with any two other symbols appear in a straight line on a simulated reel display then in the instance where three Kings together with any two other symbols appear in a straight line (thereby, according to the rules, resulting in the award of a feature game or credits) then this



award represents an "outcome" or "result" of that particular game in accordance with those particular rules.

In this specification the term "probability of a win" or a "player's winning chance" denotes, in accordance with the rules of probability theory, the probability of a particular outcome or result for any given game in accordance with the rules applying to that particular game.

10 In this specification the term "progress" applied to a game denotes that period of time between the initiation of a play of the game and the termination of the play of the game. Typically, in the case of a symbol-driven game, a player is presented with some indication that the game is progressing towards its termination, for example by  
15 showing simulated reels of spinning symbols or other indications of animation on a display.

In this specification "game" is used in the context of games played on an electronic gaming machine. A game  
20 can be initiated by a player or can be initiated as the result of an outcome of a game initiated earlier. Each game includes a termination phase during which a result or outcome of the game is made known to a player, typically visually or audibly or both.

25 In this specification the term "symbol-driven game" refers to a game where a plurality of symbols are

presented consecutively to the player during progress of a game in a way which permits the player to identify the symbols. This arrangement, in effect, reports visually on the progress of the game to the player as the game progresses. This arrangement is to be contrasted with what are sometimes called "mystery" games wherein there is no continuous reporting of progress of a game but only report of an outcome as and when the outcome occurs.

With reference to Fig. 1 a gaming machine 10 incorporating a simultaneous play feature in accordance with particular embodiments of the present invention will now be described.

The gaming machine 10 in this instance, comprises a first display 11 above which is located a second display 12.

First display 11 is adapted to display the progress and result of a base game 13 whilst second display 12 is adapted to display the progress and outcome of a second game 14.

In this instance base game 13 and second game 14 are arranged to be played simultaneously. That is second game 14 starts automatically as and when the base game 13 is initiated by a player (not shown).

The outcome of the second game 14 is independent of the outcome of the base game 13; whilst the outcome of the base game 13 is dependent (in part) on the outcome of

the second game 14, the dependency coming in the following forms by way of non-limiting example: bonus games being awarded to the base game based on certain outcomes of the second game; triggering of base game features based on certain outcomes of the second game; triggering of re-spin games on base game based on certain outcomes of the second game; symbols or multipliers being added to the base game based on certain outcomes of the second game.

10 The base game 13 in this preferred embodiment is a typical five reel poker machine game that can include features such as re-spins, free games, bonus games, second screen features (embedded in the first display II) and the like.

15 As shown in Fig. 2, in this preferred embodiment the second game 14 involves three spinning reels 16, 17 and 18 and a fourth reel or "magic door" 19. When the second game starts (at the commencement of the base game) the magic door 19 opens to reveal either a blank space or a randomly selected symbol 20 indicative of the benefits and prizes that may be conferred by a favourable outcome of the play of the second game; a blank space indicating a nil benefit.

Concurrent with the start of the base and second  
25 games, the three reels 16, 17 and 18 start to spin. Each of these reels is divided into a number of sectors at

least one sector of which on each reel is provided with a reel symbol 21. All three reels carry an identical set of symbols in this preferred embodiment.

The function of the symbols on the three reels is to  
5 determine if the player of the main game is to be awarded a prize.

If matching reel symbols 21 appear on the center line of each reel when the reels 16, 17 and 18 come to rest and a symbol 20 is displayed in the magic door 19  
10 indicative of a prize, the player may be awarded a prize in accordance with the symbol displayed in the magic door 19.

The prize may directly award credits to the player win meter or directly award bonus games, re-spins,  
15 additional symbols, multipliers, or features to the base game 13. Alternatively the prize may award a feature to be played on the second display, the outcome of which may award credits to the player win meter or award bonus games, re-spins, additional symbols, multipliers, or  
20 features to the base game 13.

A distinguishing feature of the second game in this instance lies in the nature of the prizes awarded by the second game.

For example, if a win were to be translated into  
25 credits which are transferred to the credit meter on the main display of the base game, this would merely give a

player the opportunity to claim a larger win or to continue playing the base game with the additional credits but does not in any way affect the outcome of the base game itself.

5 By contrast, in this embodiment the second game 14 can award free games of the base game or trigger the embedded second screen feature in the base game, thereby affecting in a manner beneficial to the player the probability of positive outcomes in the base game for a  
10 given investment in credits bet on gaming machine 10.

As a means of heightening player anticipation and excitement during the progress of the base and second games, the sequence of simulated reels coming to rest is coordinated between the second and base games. The  
15 intention of this sequence co-ordination is to give a progressively updated indication to the player of the progressive probability of a win or prize award as an outcome of the second game.

To this end play on the second game is paused when a  
20 winning combination of the second game is approached, for example when the first reel 16 comes to rest displaying symbol 21 on the center line. A distinctive sound or jingle is emitted to alert the player to this condition and the secondary game remains paused until the base game  
25 and any base game features are finished. A flowchart of

progress for the base and second games is illustrated in Fig. 3 in accordance with this preferred embodiment.

Example 1

With reference to Fig. 4 there is illustrated a  
5 first display or screen 111 in association with a second display or screen 112 and mounted in a gaming machine (not shown). These screens are utilised to display progress and results of games in accordance with an example of an embodiment of the present invention as will  
10 now be described:

First screen 111 displays an array of five simulated reels comprising first reel 121, second reel 122, third reel 123, fourth reel 124 and fifth reel 125. During a play of a base game 113 in accordance with rules  
15 programmed into game controller 120 symbols 126 are caused to appear to rotate on each reel as the game progresses and finally come to a stop at termination of the game 113 at which time an alignment of symbols 126 is evident to the player (not shown). The specific  
20 alignment of symbols 126 will denote a result 126 for base game 113 in accordance with the specific rules of that game as programmed into game controller 120. The result 126 may be one of the following:

1. A nil result;
- 25 2. An award of a respin (typically of some of the reels only);

3. An award of credits for use in subsequent games;
4. A feature game 127;

The feature game 127, in this example, displays its progress as an animation superimposed on the reels 121-125 on first display 111.

In a stand-alone EGM (electronic gaming machine) having only a single display screen a typical probability of a feature game 127 being awarded as the result of a play of the base game 113 only is in the region of 1:100 to 1:150. In this example, however, a second screen 112 is utilised to display the progress of and at least part of the outcomes of a second game 114 which is also controlled by controller 120 and which can interact with the base game 113 in a way whereby, in this example, the probability of a feature game 127 on base 113 being awarded is improved from the player perspective to a probability in the range 1:50 to 1:100 and, more specifically in this particular example to a probability of 1:76.

In this particular example return to player of turnover is set at 60% for the base game and 30% for the feature game played on the base game leaving 10% for the house.

In this example the second game 114 is triggered by a player (not shown) at the same time as the base game 113 is triggered or initiated, in this instance, by the

player pressing a play button 128 from an array 129 of  
play buttons 128, the pressing of which is signaled to  
game controller 120 thereby to initiate a play of both  
the base game 113 and second game 114 substantially  
5 simultaneously.

In this example the operation of the second game and  
display of its progress on second screen 114 is  
substantially as indicated in the flowchart of Fig. 3 and  
wherein like components are numbered as for the  
10 embodiment previously described with reference to Fig. 2  
but numbered in the 100 series.

The above describes only some embodiments and  
examples of the present invention and modifications,  
obvious to those skilled in the art, can be made thereto  
15 without departing from the scope and spirit of the  
invention.



## CLAIMS

1. A gaming machine operable to play a base game and a second game; said gaming machine including a first display adapted to display progress and results of said base game; said gaming machine further including a second display adapted to display progress and results of said second game; said base game and said second game arranged to be played such that selected ones of outcomes of said second game affect play of said base game, whilst the outcome of said second game is independent of the outcome of said base game.
2. The gaming machine of Claim 1 wherein said base game and said second game are initiated substantially simultaneously.
3. The gaming machine of Claim 1 or 2 wherein a win conferred by said second game can award one or more of the following directly to said base game:
  - i. A nil result;
  - ii. A cash jackpot award;
  - iii. An award of a re-spin;
  - iv. An award of credits for use in subsequent games;
  - v. A feature game on the base game;

- vi. Free games or bonus game on said base game;
  - vii. An award of base game symbols in conjunction with a re-spin of the base game.
4. The gaming machine of Claim 1 or 2 or 3 wherein a win conferred by said second game can award a feature game to be played in said second display the outcome of which can award one or more of the following to said base game:
- i. A nil result;
  - ii. A cash jackpot award;
  - iii. An award of a re-spin;
  - iv. An award of credits for use in subsequent games;
  - v. A feature game on the second game;
  - vi. Free games or bonus game on said base game;
  - vii. An award of base game symbols in conjunction with a re-spin of the base game.
5. The gaming machine of any one of Claims 1 to 4 wherein said base game is a symbol-driven game.
6. The gaming machine of any one of Claims 1 to 5 wherein said second game is a symbol-driven game.
7. The gaming machine of claim 5 or 6 wherein the coming to rest of symbols of said first game is sequentially controlled.

8. The gaming machine of claim 5 or 6 or 7 wherein the coming to rest of symbols of said second game is sequentially controlled.
9. The gaming machine of any one of claims 1 to 8  
5 wherein sequencing of progress of said second game is interleaved with sequencing of progress of said first game.
10. The gaming machine of any one of Claims 1 to 9  
10 wherein said second game is paused when a winning combination of the second game is approached.
11. The gaming machine of Claim 10 wherein said second game remains paused until said base game terminates.
12. The gaming machine of any one of Claims 1 to 11  
15 wherein said play of said base game comprises a play of an initial game together with a play of any awarded feature games or bonus games or the like.
13. The gaming machine of any one of Claims 1 to 12 wherein said base game includes an array of either 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 reels.
- 20 14. The gaming machine of any one of Claims 1 to 13 wherein said second game includes a three reel array together with a fourth reel adapted to display an openable aperture.

15. The gaming machine of claim 14 wherein each reel of the reels of said three reel array is divided into a number of sectors displayed on the circumferences of each said reel and wherein each said reel is provided with a symbol in at least one of said sectors.
16. The gaming machine of Claim 15 wherein a winning combination for said second game occurs when three symbols are aligned on a centre line of said three reel array and any symbol is displayed in said openable aperture of said fourth reel.
17. The gaming machine of any one of Claims 11 to 16 wherein a win is determined according to a predetermined disposition of said symbols of said three reel array when said three reel array has reached a stationary state at the end of said second game.
18. The gaming machine of claim 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 wherein the five reels of said base game and the reels of said second game are induced to spin at the start of said base game, and said openable aperture of said second game opens to reveal a symbol.
19. The gaming machine of any previous claim wherein a feature game is awarded thereon and has its progress

and outcome displayed on said first display; said feature game having an increased probability of award as a result of initiation of a play of both said base game and said second game substantially simultaneously as compared with initiation of said base game only.

20. A method of increasing probability of an award of a feature game, said method comprising:

a) Providing a base game and a second game on an Electronic Gaming Machine together with a first display for displaying progress and results of said base game and a second display for displaying progress and results of said second game;

b) Causing a play of said second game to be triggered when a play of said base game is initiated.

c) Allowing selected ones of outcomes of said second game to affect play of said base game whilst the outcome of said second game is maintained independent of the outcome of said base game.

1/4

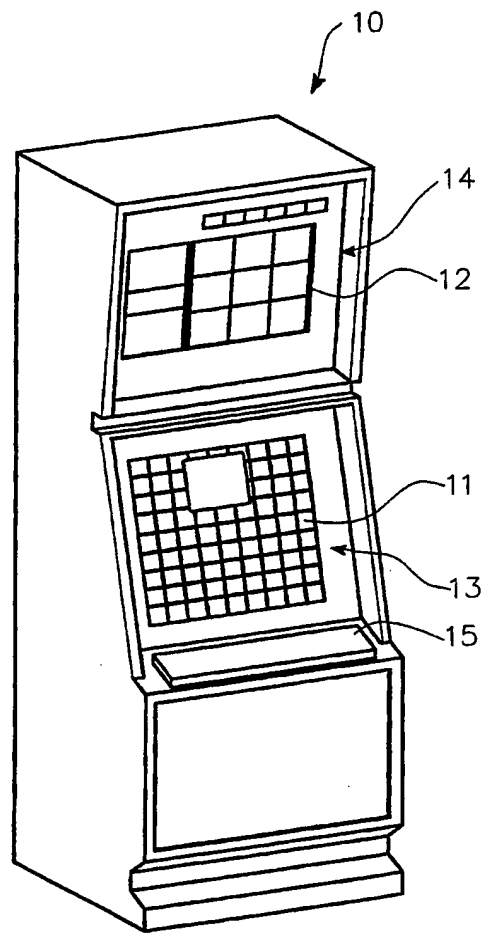


Fig. 1

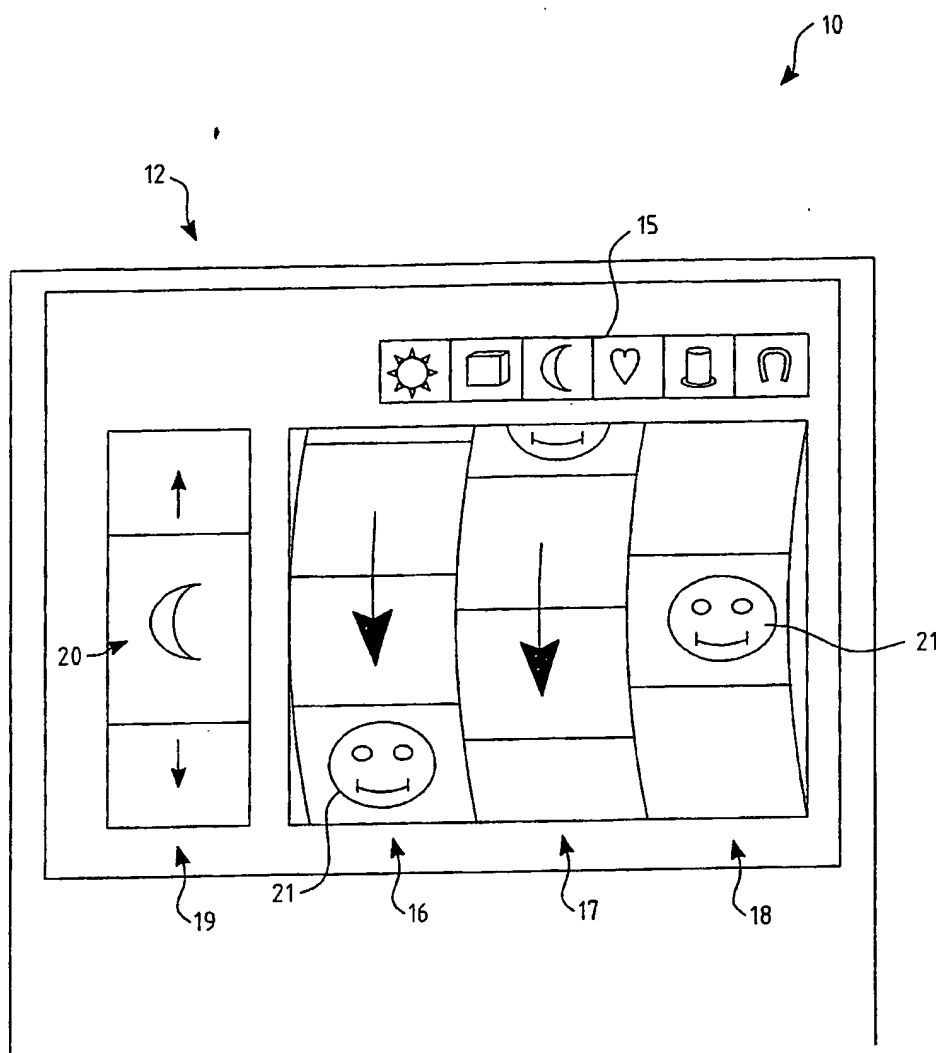


Fig. 2

3/4

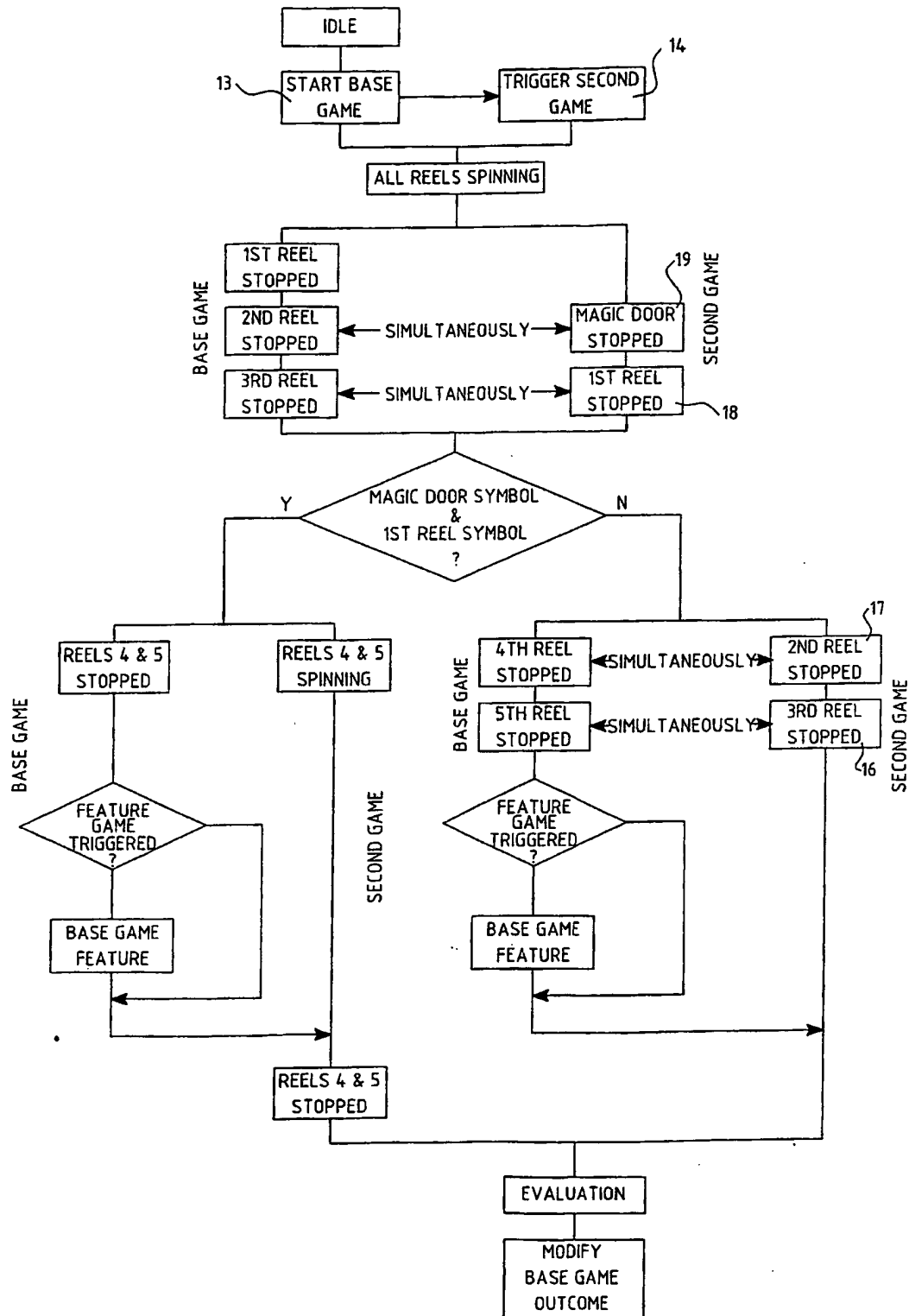


Fig. 3



4/4

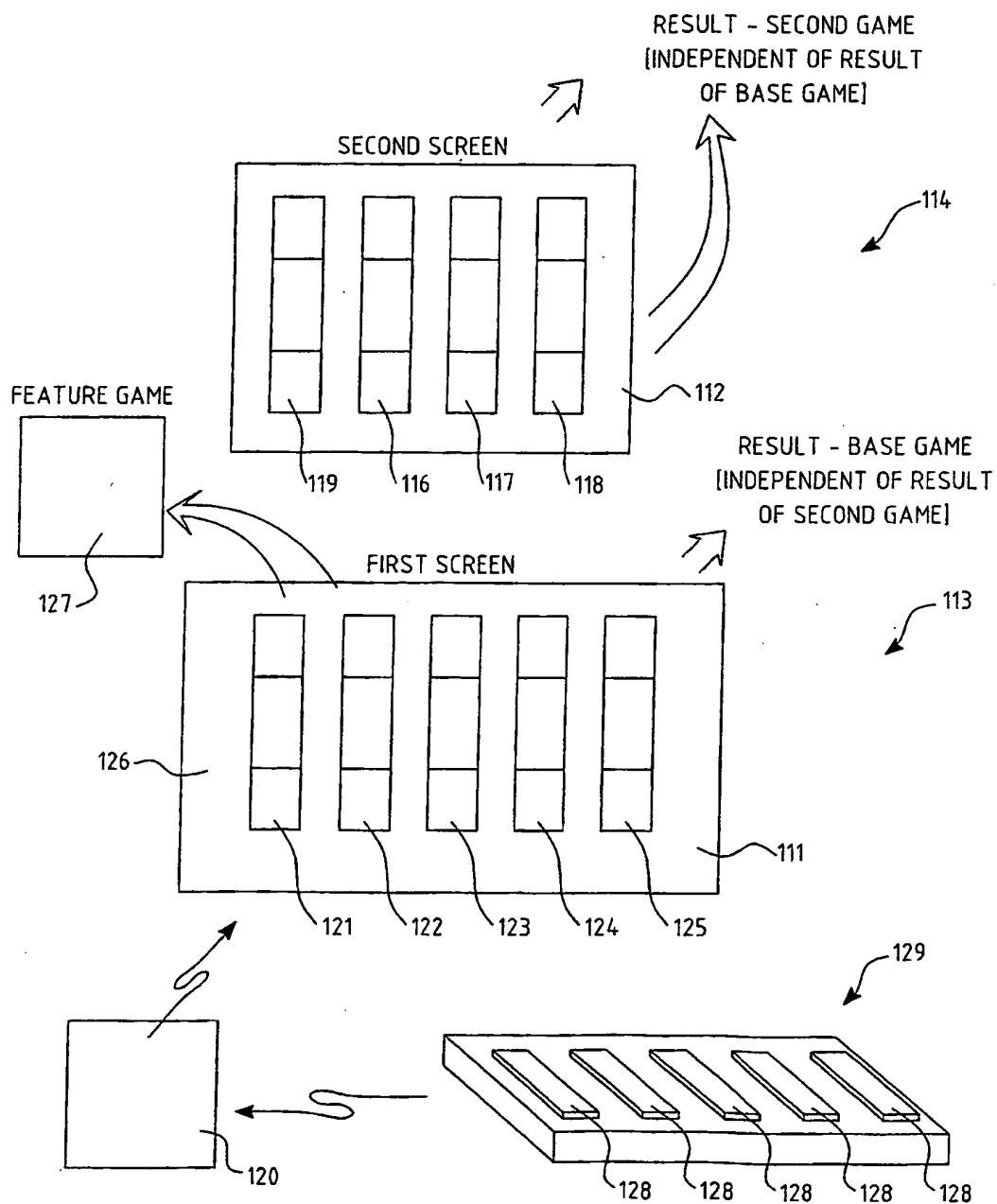


Fig. 4

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning  
Operations and is not part of the Official Record.**

## **BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ **BLACK BORDERS**
- ☐ **IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- ☐ **FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☒ **BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- ☐ **COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- ☐ **GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- ☒ **LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- ☐ **REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- ☐ **OTHER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.**